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Minutes Staff Senate Meeting, September 9, 2004

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MINUTES
STAFF SENATE MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2004
OLD MAIN 523

- I. The Staff Senate Meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Jewel Lindsey. Jewel Lindsey, Vice Chair, will preside in Chair, Kenley Haley's absence.

Members Present: Beth Arbuthnot, Janet Bowlin, Renee Clay, Tammie Edrington, Patricia Edwards, Candy Erbe, Tommi Featherston, Nancy Fondren, Carla Gray, Vicky Hartwell, Carrie Jackson, Jewel Lindsey, Eric Linson, Mary Beth Lohr, Bruce McNully, Jonathan Nelson, Bonnie Swayze, Joe Terry, Eric Vaught, Shelley Wilmoth and Susan Yell

Members Absent: Donald Blagg, David Edwards, Scott Fendley, Kenley Haley, and Robert Moler.

- II. A motion was presented, seconded, and approved to adopt the agenda as presented.
- III. A motion was presented, seconded, and approved to adopt the August 12, 2004 minutes as corrected.
- A. Correction to August 12, 2004 minutes.
- a) Section: IV. Guest Speakers for Staff Senate Retreat
- a) Section A. Richard Hudson: Question and Discussion: Surplus Funds not earmarked for specific projects are to be returned to the main administration.
- b) Section D. Gary Smith- Director, Transit and Parking: Questions and Discussion: Harmon Parking Deck spaces, pricing and procedures and Harmon's cost \$26.6 Million

- IV. Recognition of Employees of the Year—Presented by Jewel Lindsey

Employees honored:

Professional/Nonfaculty - Betty Ann Sharp, Planned Giving Manager, University Development; Secretarial/Clerical - Tucker Boys, Mail Officer, Mailing Services; Technical/Paraprofessional - Susan I. Yell, Administrative Assistant II, Department of Economics and International Business Studies; Skilled Crafts/Service/Maintenance - Archie Joe Terry, Coordinator of Housekeeping, Physical Plant

V. Recognition of graduates—Presented by Candy Erbe

Employees honored: Kenneth Armstrong, Christopher Austin, Joshua Brown, Paul Calleja, Teresa Clark, Eric Cummings, Palika Dias-Morse, Sharon Garner, Derrick Gragg, Garrick Hildebrand, John Jordan, Deborah Korth, Pamela Matthews, Andrew Mauk, Mary Alice Mixon, Mamun Monsoor, Amjad Yousef Nazzal, Kinnari Pandya, Ethan Pennington, Julie Petty, Nathan Post, Demetrius Richmond, Brian Schaffer, Neil Staley, Cynthia Still, Frederick Thrower, James Truelove, Wanda Turner and Jennifer Willroth.

VI. Standing Committees

- A. Legislative – Bruce McNully reported that the Candidate Forum will be September 29th from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM in the Arkansas Union Multi Cultural Center. Suite 414. The Forum is a reception format for senators to mingle and ask questions with candidates. The forum was co-sponsored with ASEA and the AFSCME local 965. Bruce reported that a “Talking Points” list would be e-mailed on the list-serve to the senators so they can speak in one informed voice. To add points to list below, e-mail Bruce McNully:

- Pay plan revision
- Higher education a priority in state budget
- Sick leave buyout
- CLIP

Action: Call and follow up with invitees

- B. Internal Affairs—Renee Clay reported that she and Kenley met with Dr. Pederson to discuss the availability of the child care facility on Razorback Road. Dr. Pederson indicated that the site was still available and the Senate would be kept informed and allowed the opportunity to make a proposal for the site. Renee indicated that there is another group interested in the building. They also toured the 93 child capacity building and it is a “disaster.” Pictures will be shown at next Senate Business Meeting.

Action:

- Arrange for projector to show pictures at next meeting
- Call DHS and establish a contact with case representative
- Get an estimate on cost to refurbish inside of center
- Investigate utilizing “Make a difference Day” project for center
- Start a proposal based on the LSU proposal
- Bring preliminary proposal to October Senate Business Meeting

Next Internal Affairs Meeting: October 11th, 2004

- C. Scholarships & Awards—Candy Erbe presented awards to Spring 2004 and Summer 2004 graduates earlier during business meeting.
- D. Communications – Janet Bowlin requested the Communication Committee meet for a few minutes following the business meeting. Janet inquired about the newsletter budget; the newsletter needs to be ready for the Health Fair.

Action: E-mail information for newsletter to Janet Bowlin

- E. Finance – Vicky Hartwell passed a budget handout and reported the following:
- Spending of \$485.00 on refreshments and nametags
 - \$1250.00 for funding the Team Award this year and \$2500.00 for next year

Action: Check on monthly payroll deductions for staff contributions.

- F. Elections—Jewel Lindsey reported the Elections Committee will meet in January.

- G. Safety—Joe Terry reported the committee had not met but will considering the following at the next meeting.

- Activity at Stadium and Maple
 - Re-time the light
 - Address the high curb
 - Pedestrian crossing on full red

- H. Parking and Transit—Donnie Blagg was unable to attend.

- I. Employee of the Quarter—Susan Yell reported nominations are due October 15th. Interactive form is available on the web. Susan also reminded the senators of the new category for EOQ.

VII. Ad Hoc Committees

- A. Fringe Benefits—Bonnie Swayze reported that the System Committee will meet again on September 30th. Bonnie updated the Senate on several impending changes effecting coverage for staff.
- Costly increase in January
 - Change to new Cancer Policy due to poor management abilities of current policy administrators. Staff members with current events will stay with current company.
 - TIAA-CREF is making changes that impact the input and choices available to employees and the investment of their funds
 - Open enrollment for health and dental plan in January

- It appears state employees heading to a Health Savings Plan. How will this affect U of A employees?
- B. By-Laws—Candy Erbe submitted the first reading of the proposed amendment to the by-laws for the team award. It was discussed and agreed that the following change would be made: “Each member of the team will receive a monetary award with a team maximum which will be determined by yearly funding.”

Action: The amendment will be reviewed and voted on at the next Senate Business Meeting.
- C. Picnic—Eric Vaught reported that the picnic date will be moved up a week and suggest the possibility of including ice cream next spring. The Picnic committee will meet in October.

VIII. Other Business

- A. Announcements—Beth Arbuthnot attended in Barbara Taylor’s absence. No announcements.
 - B. Transit and Parking—Gary Smith updated the Senate on the following:
 - Lot 56 express back on normal route with one additional stop
 - Parking Deck is on schedule and will open 500 spaces
 - 52 K and 55 Q will be left as is until deck opens
 - Discussion and questions to the role of the city and the University in reference to the Harmon intersection
- IX. Adjournment—a motion was presented, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Sherrie F. Robins, Recording Secretary